Passenger traffic between Tirupathi and Hyderabad

1156. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railways have conducted any survey regarding the heavy passenger pilgrimage traffic between Tirupathi and Hyderabad;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Rayala Seema Express between Hyderabad and Tirupathi is running late regularly;

(c) if so, what action has been taken by the authorities to check the late running of the train;

(d) whether there is any proposal to speed up the Rayala Seema Express and to increase the number of coaches; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Madam.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) However, efforts are being made to improve its punctual running.

(d) No, Madam.

(e) Speeding up of Rayalaseema Express of augmentation of its load is not presently feasible.

Development of Tirupathi Airport

1157. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to develop Tirupathi Airport in Andhra Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Provision has been made in the draft Seventh Five Year Plan of the National Airports Authority for the following works for development of Tirupathi Airport:—

(i) Extension and Modification of Terminal Building and Car Park;

(ii) Extension and strengthening of runway and associated pavements;

(iii) Augmentation of water and power supply;

(iv) Construction of residential quarters;

(v) Construction of approach road.

(c) Does not arise.

New Railway train between Tirupathi and Vijayawada

1158. SHRI TALARI MANOHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce new express train between Tirupathi and Vijayawada keeping in view of the heavy pilgrim traffic to these two places; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) 4 pairs of trains adequately serve the present volume of traffic between Tirupathi and Vijayawada.